

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 AF-06 OPIC-03 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SSC-01 AID-05 HUD-01 EB-07 OMB-01 OFA-01

SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00 HEW-02 FEA-01 COME-00 SCA-01

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P R 271233Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4411

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5697

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: NEW GOVERNMENT NOMINATIONS

SUMMARY: CDR. VITOR CRESPO WAS SWORN-IN SEPT 26 TO NEWLY-CREATED POSITION OF MINISTER OF COOPERATION. CRESPO, WORKING UNDER PRESIDENCY, WILL CARRY MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY IN DE-COLONIZATION MATTERS RELATING TO ANGOLA AND TIMOR. APPOINTMENT IS ANOTHER REVERSE FOR COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS WITHIN AFM WHO HAD SOUGHT TO EXCLUDE CRESPO FROM LEADERSHIP POSITIONS.

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OF THIRTEEN NEW SECRETARIES OF STATE SWORN-IN WITH CRESPO, PCP

GOT ONLY INSIGNIFICANT SPORTS AND YOUTH. ALTHOUGH EIGHT TO TEN OF MOST CONTROVERSIAL SECRETARIATS REMAIN TO BE FILLED, DOMINANT POSITION OF PS AND PPD IS ALREADY CONFIRMED. END SUMMARY.

1. CDR VITOR CRESPO WAS SWORN IN SEPT 26 TO NEWLY-CREATED POSITION OF MINISTER OF COOPERATION. NEW MINISTRY WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED WITHIN SECRETARIATS OF STATE FOR DECOLONIZATION AND EXTERNAL COOPERATION. NEW MINISTRY WILL ALSO HANDLE MATTERS RELATING TO ANGOLA AND TIMOR. TO COMPLETE REORGANIZATION, RESPONSIBILITY FOR WELFARE OF ANGOLAN RETURNEES WAS TRANSFERRED TO A NEW SECRETARIAT FOR STATE WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS. COMMENTING TO PRESS ON REORGANIZATION, CRESPO EMPHASIZED THAT DECOLONIZATION ACTIVITIES WILL CONTINUE DIRECTLY UNDER PRESIDENCY.

2. AT SAME CEREMONY, TWENTY-THREE SECRETARIES OF STATE WERE SWORN IN--THIRTEEN NEW DESIGNATIONS AND TEN OF ELEVEN SECRETARIES NOMINATED ON SEPT 23.
(ENG. EDUARDO PEREIRA, AN INDEPENDENT, WHO WAS NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS SEPTEMBER 23, WAS NOT SWORN IN. GOP MAY BE RELUCTANT TO PUT HOUSING UNDER COMMUNIST MINISTER VIEGA DE OLIVEIRA, AND COULD BE CONSIDERING RE-ORGANIZATION INVOLVING HOUSING SECRETARIAT.)

THIRTEEN NEW SECRETARIES ARE:

SOCIALISTS (5):

--PLANNING AND BUDGET, VICTOR RIBEIRO CONSTANCIO.
--FOREIGN RELATIONS, DR. JOSE MANUEL DE MEDEIROS FERREIRA.
--FISHERIES, ENG. PEDRO AMADEU DOS SANTOS COELHO.
--LABOR, DR. FRANCISCO MANUEL MARCELO MONTEIRO CURTO.
--EMPLOYMENT, ENG. MANUEL ALFREDO TITO DE MORAIS.

POPULAR DEMOCRATS (2):

--EMIGRATION, DR. RUI MACHETE
--HEALTH, DR. CARLOS MATOS CHAVES MACEDO.

INDEPENDENTS: (4):

--HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, DR. ANTONIO DE MORAIS COSTA BROTAS.
--ENERGY AND MINES, ENG. FERNANDO MARQUES VIDEIRA.
--HEAVY INDUSTRY, ENG. MARIO CARDOSO DOS SANTOS.
--REGIONAL AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, MANUEL FERREIRA DE LIMA.

MILITARY (1):

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--SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, CAPT. MARIO JOSE DE AGUIAR.

PCP (1):

SPORTS AND YOUTH, JOSE DE ALMEIDA SILVA GRACA.

3. EIGHT TO TEN ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES OF STATE REMAIN TO BE NAMED. AGREEMENT WAS NOT REACHED ON THESE POSITIONS IN TIME FOR SEPT 26 CEREMONY, AND THEIR INSTALLATION MUST NOW AWAIT PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES'S RETURN FROM VISIT TO POLAND AND USSR.

OF 23 SECRETARIES OF STATE SWORN IN TO DATE, THE SOCIALISTS
HOLD 9, INDEPENDENTS 5, THE PPD 4, THE MILITARY 3, AND THE
PCP TWO.

4. COMMENT: THE TRANSFER OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DE-
COLONIZATION TO VITOR CRESPO IS GOOD NEWS. CRESPO IS GIVEN
WIDE CREDIT IN PORTUGAL FOR HAVING PEACEFULLY AND RAPIDLY
EFFECTED THE INDEPENDENCE OF MOZAMBIQUE WHILE HE WAS HIGH
COMMISSIONER. HE IS ONE OF ANTUNES NINE, AND HIS APPOINTMENT
IS ANOTHER REVERSE FOR COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS WITHIN AFM,
PARTICULARLY NAVY ELEMENTS WHICH SUCCESSFULLY EXCLUDED CRESPO
FROM REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL.

5. NEW SECRETARY OF STATE APPOINTMENTS FURTHER CONSOLIDATE PS
AND PPD STRENGTH IN NEW GOVERNMENT. PS OBTAINED THE TWO
SECRETARIATS IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR, CONFIRMING OUSTER OF
PCP MEMBER CARLOS CARVALHAS. FAILURE TO REAPPOINT MARIO RIUVO
TO FISHEIES POSITION IS FURTHER SETBACK TO PCP. PERHAPS IN
RESPONSE, PCP LEADER CUNHAL, TOLD OPORTO RALLY SEPT 26 THAT
PCP WOULD ONLY SUPPORT THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO THE DEGREE THAT THE
PCP IS GIVEN A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN IT. WHILE SOME DIFFICULT
BARGAINING REMAINS OVER REMAINING SECRETARIATS, DOMINANCE OF
DEMOCRATIC PARTIES IS ALREADY SEALED.
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